

***In the Claims:***

Claims 1-11 (canceled)

12. (previously presented) An apparatus for keeping a person warm, comprising:
- a generally tubular length of material having an open end, a closed end, an inner surface, and an outer surface;
  - an elastic band encircling said open end;
  - a protective mat secured to the outer surface of the closed end of the apparatus; and
  - a fastener attached to the protective mat for securing the closed end of the apparatus to an external surface.
13. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 12, further comprising a pocket in said tubular length of material at or near said open end.

Claims 14 - 18 (canceled)

19. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein said material is a ~~wind-~~  
~~resistant~~ weatherproof material.
20. (currently amended) A method of keeping a person warm while in a tree stand,  
comprising the steps of:
- (a) ~~inserting one or both feet and legs into~~ obtaining a generally tubular  
length of material comprising:
- an open end, a closed end, an inner surface, and an outer  
surface;
- an elastic band encircling said open end;
- a protective mat secured to the outer surface of the closed end  
of the apparatus; and
- a fastener attached to the protective mat for securing the closed  
end of the apparatus to an external surface;~~and~~
- (b) ~~inserting one or both feet and legs into the generally tubular length of~~  
~~material; and~~
- (b)(c) pulling the open end of the length of material up to a desired height.

21. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim ~~12~~19, wherein the ~~wind-~~  
~~resistant~~weatherproof material is chosen from nylon, polar fleece, and parachute silk.
22. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim ~~12~~19, wherein the inner surface is polar  
fleece and the outer surface is either parachute silk or nylon.